IN THE CLAIMS

1.(Original) A server system comprising:

a plurality of host processor cards;

a management card coupled to the plurality of host processor cards via at least one bus, the management card including at least one user interface for receiving network address information from a user, the management card configured to send received network address information to the plurality of host processor cards via the at least one bus, thereby configuring the host processor cards for management LAN communications.

2.(Original) The server system of claim 1, wherein the at least one bus is an I^2C bus.

3.(Original) The server system of claim 2, wherein the at least one bus is an intelligent platform management interface (IPMI) I^2C bus.

4.(Original) The server system of claim 3, wherein the network address information sent from the management card to the plurality of host processor cards is sent using an augmented IPMI protocol that includes additional host processor card configuration commands.

5.(Original) The server system of claim 1, wherein the network address information includes internet protocol (IP) address information.

6.(Original) The server system of claim 5, wherein the IP address information includes an IP address, gateway address, subnet address, and host name.

7.(Original) The server system of claim 1, wherein the at least one user interface includes at least one serial port and at least one LAN interface.

8.(Original) The server system of claim 7, wherein the at least one user interface further includes at least one LCD panel mounted on the server system.

9.(Original) A server management card for a server system having a plurality of host processor cards, the server management card comprising:

at least one user interface for allowing a user to enter network address information;

at least one I^2C bus connection for connecting the server management card to the plurality of host processor cards via at least one I^2C bus; and

a controller configured to output entered network address information to the plurality of host processor cards via the at least one I^2C bus connection, thereby configuring the plurality of host processor cards for network communications.

10.(Original) The server management card of claim 9, wherein the at least one I^2C bus is an intelligent platform management interface (IPMI) I^2C bus.

11.(Original) The server management card of claim 10, wherein the network address information output from the server management card to the plurality of host processor cards is sent using an augmented IPMI protocol that includes additional host processor card configuration commands.

12.(Original) The server management card of claim 9, wherein the network address information includes internet protocol (IP) address information.

13.(Original) The server management card of claim 12, wherein the IP address information includes an IP address, gateway address, subnet address, and host name.

14.(Original) The server management card of claim 9, wherein the at least one user interface includes at least one serial port, at least one LAN interface, and at least one LCD panel mounted on the server system.

15.(Original) A method of configuring host processor cards in a server system for management network communications, the method comprising:

providing a management card in the server system having at least one user interface;

providing at least one bus connecting the management card and the host processor cards;

entering network address information to the management card through the at least one user interface; and

sending entered network address information from the management card to the host processor cards, thereby configuring the host processor cards for management network communications.

16.(Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one bus is an I^2C bus.

17.(Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one bus is an intelligent platform management interface (IPMI) I^2C bus.

18.(Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the network address information sent from the management card to the host processor cards is sent using an augmented IPMI protocol that includes additional host processor card configuration commands.

19.(Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the network address information includes an internet protocol (IP) address, gateway address, subnet address, and host name.

20.(Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one user interface includes at least two of a serial port, a LAN interface, and an LCD panel mounted on the server system.